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LETTER DATED 9 OCTOBER 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF QATAR TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to inform you that the annual coordination meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, held at United Nations Headquarters, on 1 October 1998, took note of the letter by Judge Gabrielle Kirk McDonald, President of the International Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, dated 9 September 1998 (S/1998/839), and the letter by the Permanent Representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations, dated 17 September 1998 (S/1998/867), reminding the Security Council of the continuing failure of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to cooperate in full with the International Tribunal, in violation of the Dayton/Paris Peace Agreement and the relevant Security Council resolutions.

The meeting endorsed the request, contained in the above-mentioned letters, respectively, that the Security Council consider such non-compliance and take the necessary action in order to ensure compliance by the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro). In this context, the meeting reiterated its position that the full cooperation of all parties with the International Tribunal is a key element in the peace process. The failure to hand over all indicted war criminals remains a major obstacle to the consistent and full implementation of the Peace Agreement, for the process of reconciliation and, ultimately, for creating a stable, irreversible, peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the region as a whole. The meeting called upon the Council, as a creator of the International Tribunal and endorser of the Dayton/Paris Peace Agreement, to take urgent and decisive action in order to compel compliance by all the parties without further delay.

I would be grateful for your assistance in having this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nassir Abdelaziz AL-NASSER
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the State of Qatar to the United Nations
Chairman, Group of the Islamic States

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